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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

For Immediate Release: March 17, 2004

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### **Focken named deputy commissioner for Corrections**

Frankfort, KY - Lieutenant Gov. Stephen B. Pence, also the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet Secretary, today announced the appointment of Randy Focken as a Deputy Commissioner in the Department of Corrections. He will oversee the Department's Community Services Division, which encompasses Probation and Parole and Local Facilities.

Focken comes to the position with nearly 25 years experience in Corrections, the last several as the Sentencing and Guidelines Specialist in the U.S. Probation and Parole's Western District in Louisville. A native of Milford, Ill., he began his career in 1980 as a Probation Officer with Champaign County Court Services in Urbana, Ill. In 1984, Focken continued his career as a Probation Officer with St. Louis County Justice Services in St. Louis, Mo., and then a year later, began a 17-year career as a United States Probation Officer, first in St. Louis, then Springfield, Ill., and then in 1992, in Louisville's Western District.

"Randy brings a different perspective and a wealth of experience to our Community Services Division," said Corrections Commissioner John D. Rees. "He will be a valuable asset to our team."

As a Probation and Parole Officer, Focken has conducted investigations in Pretrial Services, Presentence, release of offenders on Parole or Supervised Release. He conducted Preliminary Interviews of Parole violators, in addition to providing Pretrial, Probation, Parole, and Supervised Release supervision of offenders.

Focken is a graduate of the University of Illinois where he received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice. He and his wife Sandy live with their daughter Kaitlyn in the Louisville area where he is active as a volunteer coach in youth softball and basketball leagues. He has also volunteered as vice-president on the board of a local girls' softball league, and as a videographer for a local high school girls' basketball team. In addition, Focken has volunteered as a coach in youth baseball leagues while living in Missouri and Illinois and he served as president of the league in Springfield, Ill. He and his family attend Northside Christian Church in New Albany, Ind.